

# Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

102 West Tryon Street

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[www.hillsboroughpres.org](http://www.hillsboroughpres.org)

[YouTube Channel](#)



ORGANIZED 1816

*To those who seek the joy of sharing  
in worship and praise; to those  
who seek to know and serve the Lord,  
our Church opens wide its doors.*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 12, 2026**  
**11:00 AM**

*Reverend Alex Fischer, Pastor*

*Beth Jordan, Music Director*

*JoAnn Harrison, Secretary*

**Gathering of the People**

Prelude  
Welcome

*When in Our Music God is Glorified: Intrada*

Bates

## Praise of God

Call to Worship (from Psalm 119:105-11)

One: All who walk in shadow, come into the light!

**All: God's Word lights the way for us.**

One: God has promised to abide with us.

**All: So let us commit to walk in God's ways.**

One: All who are afflicted, ensnared by the world, come give praise to God.

**All: God is the joy of our heart, our sure and certain comfort, come what may!**

\* Hymn No. 664

### *Morning Has Broken*



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet  
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious Creator, you created this world and called it good. Out of this world, you called a pilgrim people, chosen to abide with you and to bear witness to your reality. Yet we often find ourselves making peace with what does not give peace. Meet us in our weakness; turn our unwilling eyes upon our unruly hearts. Draw us away from our love of power, our tolerance of injustice, our ignorance of suffering. Drive us towards what is fearfully and wonderfully made, so that we may proclaim hope, offer forgiveness, and love our neighbors through faithful living, according to the way of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.**

Sung Response No. 306

### **Blest Be the Tie That Binds (vs. 1-2)**

*Please join in singing this response.*

Musical notation for the response. It is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The notes are: Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), Eb5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), Ab5 (quarter), Bb5 (quarter), C6 (quarter), Bb5 (quarter), Ab5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), Eb5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), C5 (quarter). The bass line consists of chords: Bb4, C5, D5, Eb5, F5, G5, Ab5, Bb5, C6, Bb5, Ab5, G5, F5, Eb5, D5, C5.

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in  
2 Be - fore our \*Fa - ther's throne we pour our  
3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual  
4 When we are called to part, it gives us  
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of  
ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our  
bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each  
in - ward pain; but we shall still be  
shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.  
aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.  
friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Words of Forgiveness (from Romans 8:1-3)

One: For those who are in Christ, there is no condemnation; for by Christ's death and resurrection, God has done what the law and works of human righteousness alone could not: breathed new life through the Holy Spirit into the world, turning it upside down. Believe this scandalous, joyous good news:

**All: through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and restored to new life. Alleluia! Amen!**

\* Response No. 306 **Blest Be the Tie That Binds** (vs. 3-5, see music above)

*Please join in singing this response.*

**Sharing of God's Word**

Conversation with the Children

Barbara Younger

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (pg. 1186)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn No. 100

*My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout*

Em C D

1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -

Em C D Em

God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Hymn No. 721

***Lord, You Have come to the Lakeshore***



1 Lord, you have come to the lake - shore look - ing  
2 You know so well my pos - ses - sions; my boat  
3 You need my hands, full of car - ing, through my  
4 You, who have fished oth - er o - ceans, ev - er

G A A7

nei - ther for wealth - y nor wise ones; you on - ly  
 car - ries no gold and no weap - ons; ¶ you will  
 la - bors to give oth - ers rest and con - stant  
 longed for by souls who are wait - ing, my lov - ing

D A D D7

asked me to fol - low hum - bly.  
 find there my nets and la - bor.  
 love that keeps on lov - ing.  
 friend, as thus you call me:

*Refrain / Estribillo*

G D

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while  
 Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do g los o - jos, son - ri -

A7 G A7 D D7

smil - ing have spo - ken my name; now my  
 en - do has di - cho mi nom - bre, en la g -

G F#m B7

boat's left on the shore - line be - hind me. By your  
 re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca, jun - to g

Em A7 D

side I will seek oth - er seas.  
 ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.

Hymn No. 630

***Fairest Lord Jesus***

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come  
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of  
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry  
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I  
 spring. Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is  
 host. Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines  
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.  
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Anthem

*God Be With You*

**Response to the Gospel**

\* Hymn No. 157

*I Danced in the Morning*

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)  
 F Dm Am Dm

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I  
 2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but  
 3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The  
 4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black. It's  
 5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. †

(Em) (A)  
 Gm C

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I  
 they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I  
 ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They  
 hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They  
 I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)  
 F Dm Am Dm

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At  
 danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They  
 whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and  
 bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but  
 live in you if you'll live in me, †

(Em) (A7) (G) (D)  
Gm C7 B<sup>b</sup> F

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.  
came with me and the dance went on.  
left me there on a cross to die.  
I am the dance and I still go on.  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Refrain (F#m) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (D) (Bm)  
Am Dm Am Dm F Dm

Dance, then, wher-ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

(Em) (A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A7) (D)  
Gm C F Dm F C7 F

Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be,

(Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)  
Gm C7 F B<sup>b</sup> F

and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

### Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### The Offering

#### Offertory

\* Hymn of Dedication No. 353

#### *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and  
2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un -  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but  
chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
him be found, dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be - fore the throne. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

\* Prayer of Dedication

Affirmation of Faith (from the Iona Abbey Worship Book)

**We believe in God in whom there is power and compassion. We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe, set solar systems dancing in space, shaped molecules and mountains, and conceived beauty beyond our imagining. God's power topples tyrants, and brings down walls of separation; God's love embodies the tenderness of a mother and father, encouraging and caring for each of us.**

**We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land; a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution, and grief. He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil, spoke the truth with courage and clarity, forgave his enemies and changed lives. In his living, dying, and rising again he showed love strong enough to save the world.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts, and empowers us, opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness.**

### Go Forth to Serve

Invitation to Share and Serve

\* Hymn No. 641

*When in Our Music God is Glorified (vs. 1, 2, 5)*

1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,  
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found  
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,  
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night  
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!

and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,  
 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,  
 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,  
 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?  
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!

it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:  
 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found  
 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:  
 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\* Charge and Benediction  
 \* Postlude

*Variation*

Bates



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# CHURCH NOTES

July 12, 2026

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We welcome you to Hillsborough Presbyterian Church and to this worship and this live-stream service. We are truly pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today because we believe that everyone who enters these doors is God's guest. We welcome all to be part of our community of faith, and participate in any of our activities and events.

The **FLOWERS** are shared today with thankfulness to God and in appreciation of the music brought to us by Beth Jordan during her time with us, by Vibeke and Joe Talley.

Assisting in Worship today:

**Liturgist:** Vernon Cooper

**Children's Sermon:** Barbara Younger

**Acolyte:** TBD

**Nursery:** Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Emma Cathey

**Video:** Alicia Gonzalez, Joe Crane

Join us for **Lemonade on the Lawn** immediately following worship on Sunday mornings. To host, please use the sign-up sheet in the hallway outside the church office – we have open dates: August 16, 23, 30.

**Circle #1** will meet on Monday, July 13, at 11:00 AM in Room #204. All are welcome, bring your lunch and join us! Questions? See Karoline Mathewson.

The **Knitting Group** will meet on Wednesday, July 15, at 12:30 in the HPC Parlor. Questions? See Sara Clay.

**HPC Coffee & Tea Club** will gather on Thursday, July 16, at 9:00 AM at Antonia's. All are welcome to join us! Questions? See Joe Crane.

The **Finish-It-Friday** group will meet on Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. Bring any craft project and work on it in Strudwick with friends (knitting, crochet, painting, sewing, quilting, etc). We start at 6:00 PM and end at 11:00 PM. Come any time during that period. We will order pizza, or you can bring your dinner. There is plenty of room to spread out to work and visit. Questions? See Ann Sebesan.

Mark your calendar – **Vacation Bible School** will be **Friday, July 24 – Sunday, July 26**. This year's theme is *What's Cookin'*. Cooking is more than just mixing stuff together—it takes time, creativity, care, and knowing what each ingredient brings to the table. The same is true when it comes to growing our faith! Through Old Testament stories like those of Jacob, Moses, and Deborah, our young chefs will realize that God always makes time for us, God gave us gifts that make a difference, God makes us stronger together, and we make God known when we share our story. Schedule is:

- Friday, July 25 – 5:30 (dinner) to 8 p.m. (Location: Fairview Community Garden)
- Saturday, July 26 – 9 a.m. to noon (Location: HPC)
- Sunday, July 27 – 9 to 10:45 a.m. (Location: HPC)

Please click [here](#) to register. Please complete one registration form per child. For planning purposes, we'd like to have an idea of who will be attending by July 13, but advanced registration is not required. Questions or want to volunteer? See Katherine Cathey.

**Women's Fellowship Breakfast** at 9:00 AM on Saturday, July 25, in the HPC Parlor. Please join other women in the church for a time of food and fellowship. A breakfast table will be set up for children too! Questions, see Karoline Mathewson.

The Congregational Care Committee is planning an **all-day church retreat** at New Hope Camp and Conference Center for **Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, beginning at noon**. To help with our planning, we have created a survey for you all to fill out. You can fill out the survey electronically here: <https://forms.gle/zoxqHQwARzChofe99>. Questions? See Sam Nesbit or Jan McKelvey. And mark your calendars for Saturday August 1st!

**HPC Book Club** will not meet in July, but in preparation for our August 9<sup>th</sup> gathering we will be reading “1929: Inside the Greatest Crash in Wall Street History,” by Andrew Ross Sorkin.

**2026 Flower Chart** – Sign up and share with your Church the joy of an anniversary, a special occasion, or memorialize someone important to you! Sign up on the sheet outside the church office or drop us an email! (Open dates: July 19, 26; August 2, 9, 16, 23 30) ([hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org](mailto:hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org))

### **WAYS TO GIVE - Giving Opportunities**

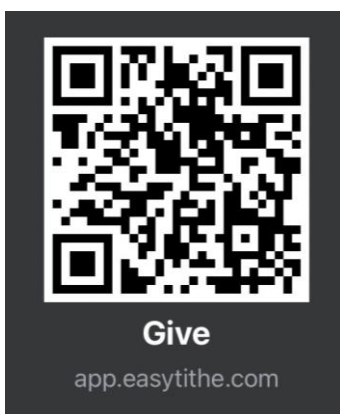
**Shoes and Pants Needed** -- The residents of **Orange County Correctional** are in need of lightly used sneaker type men’s shoes, especially sizes 9 to 12. They could also use men’s pants sizes 38 to 42. As usual, they are in need of personal hygiene items. Regular size toothpaste; Arm and Hammer Deodorant, Suave 3 in 1 body wash and shampoo. These can be brought to the OCC basket in the Narthex. They will be picked up and delivered monthly. Thank you for any items and prayers for our neighbors. Questions? See Robin Barnhill.

Many of you are aware of **OCIM** and it’s feeding of those in need. We are known as the “peanut butter church”. There is always a need for peanut butter --- creamy peanut butter, preferably. You may place peanut butter in the covered OCIM basket in the Narthex at any time. A jar can go in every bag given to a client. For immediate needs, see the weekly NewsFlash.

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Check out our **HPC WEBSITE** at [www.hillsboroughpres.org](http://www.hillsboroughpres.org) – click on any event on our calendar page for details! You will also find the monthly newsletter and Sunday bulletin posted on this website!  
A great way to keep up with what’s happening at HPC!

In an emergency or to share a concern, please contact the church office, 919-732-3131. You may also contact the Pastor, Reverend Alex Fischer, at [hillsboroughpresrev@gmail.com](mailto:hillsboroughpresrev@gmail.com).



**THIS SUNDAY: July 12 Hymn Sing**

**Lectionary Readings:** Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112;  
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)  
12:15 PM Lemonade on Lawn (O’Connor Family)

**Mon** - 11:00 AM Circle #1 (#204)

**Wed** –12:30 PM HPC Knitting Group (Parlor)

**Thu** - 9:00 AM HPC Coffee & Tea Club (Antonia’s)

**Fri** - 6:00 PM Finish-It-Friday Group (Strudwick Hall)

**Volunteers:**

**Liturgist:** Vernon Cooper  
**Children’s Sermon:** Barbara Younger  
**Acolyte:** TBD  
**Nursery:** Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Emma Cathey  
**Flowers:** Joe and Vibeke Talley  
**Video:** Alicia Gonzalez, Joe Crane

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**NEXT SUNDAY: July 19 Communion and OCIM Collection**

**Lectionary Readings:** Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24;  
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)  
Communion and OCIM Collection  
12:15 PM Lemonade on Lawn (Bernard Family)

**Volunteers:**

**Liturgist:** Rich Erdosy  
**Children’s Sermon:** Rev Alex Fischer  
**Acolyte:** TBD  
**Nursery:** Ximena Ceja-Reyes, TBD  
**Flowers:** TBD  
**Video:** Kenneth Stephenson, Jack or Ben Stephenson